

**REMARKS**

The applicant requests the election of a single species as indicated by the examiner in Group 2 Claims 7-12 of the office response. The applicant further requests the right to a divisional patent and or continuation for the other independent species noted in the application as filed.

List of Group 2 elected species claims:

7. An odor-containment apparatus comprising:

a body configured to receive and store odor-producing articles, the body having first and second ends, the second end being closed to retain the odor-producing articles in a chamber defined by the body, the body being made of a material configured to inhibit odor from passing through the body, at least a portion of the body spanning a first area in an open position; and

an odor-inhibiting sleeve defining a through passage, the sleeve having a first end connected to the first end of the body, and having a second end that spans a second area in an open position, the second area being smaller than the first area, the second end of the sleeve providing an opening such that the passage of the sleeve is in fluid communication with the chamber defined by the body with the sleeve and the body in open positions;

wherein the sleeve is configured to repeatedly attach to itself, at least on an inner surface, to self-seal the passage thereby inhibiting odors in the chamber defined by the body from passing through the sleeve; and

wherein the sleeve is configured to detach from itself to allow an article to pass through the sleeve into the chamber of the body, and to re-attach to itself after the article passes through the sleeve.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the second end of the sleeve is disposed between the first and second ends of the body.

9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the sleeve is configured to at least one of produce an odor-masking scent, absorb odors, neutralize odors, kill bacteria, and inhibit bacteria growth.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the sleeve contains material configured to be activated by at least one of heat, pressure, and time to release an odor-masking scent.

11. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising an attaching mechanism connected to the body and configured to attach to a trash receptacle and to hold the apparatus in place as waste articles are deposited in the body through the sleeve.

12. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the body and the sleeve are portions of a monolithic material.

The applicant will enter a preliminary amendment to the claims for the examiners review based on the election of species. The applicant feels the current application is now allowable to process; no new matter has been entered into the specification or drawings. The applicant respectfully requests the examiner to review the specification and claims as amended.

Date: Jan 26, 2007



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